Progress of Nathpa-Jhakri Power Project

3815. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the progress of Nathpa-Jhakri hydroelectric project in Himachal Pradesh has reduced down during the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the World Bank has also expressed its concern about the progress of the project; and

(d) if so, steps being taken to expedite the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Increase in the Rate of Power-Tariff

3816. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that government propose to increase the rate of power tariff in the country in order to attract foreign investment; and

(b) if so, the extent of increase contemplated and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

3817. [*Transferred to 25th August,* 1993]

Russian Package for Tehri Hydro Project

3818. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state,

(a) whether it is a fact that the Russian Sponsored consortium has offered a package for the Tehri hydro Electric project;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the conditionalities if any, attached with the offer; and

(c) the decision taken by the government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The package offers suppliers/commercial credit for the hydro-power equipment being made available. The Russian and Ukrainian partners will provide supplier credit upto 55% of the cost of their portion; while 50% cost of their equipment is payable in Dollars, the remaining 50% will be paid through exports of goods from India to Russia/Ukraine. In case of ABB partners about 85% of the cost of suppliers is proposed to be financed through credit on commercial terms in the currency of the country making the supply.

(c) No decision has been taken by the Government in this matter.

Environmental Conditionalities of World Bank for NTPC Power Projects

3819. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has stipulated tough new environmental conditions for NTPC in setting up new thermal power stations;

(b) what are the new terms and conditions set up by the World Bank in this matter;

(c) what is the reaction of NTPC to these conditions;

(d) whether any cost benefit analysis have been done by NTPC if it avails such stipulated World Bank loans; and

(e) if not, details of such an analysis on cost benefit done by NTPC?